(d) what measures have been taken by Government to bring down the prices of pulses at a reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPTT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): (a) and (b) The percentage variation in the Wholesale Price Indices of pulses for the period 30.12.95 to 17.2.96 (being the latest) is as under:

	17.2.96*
	30.12.95
Pulses (Sub-group)	—2.2
Gram	—1.4
Arhar	—6.4
Moong	—0.8
Masur	—5.2
Urad	+2.6

*Latest availabie Wholesale Price Index Number

(c) The production of pulses in the country is nearely stagnant at around 14 million tonnes for the past few years. The estimated demand for pulses in the country is around 19 million tonnes. Thus, there is a gap of around 5 million tonnes.

(d) The farmers are being encouraged to increase the area under cultivation as well as yield of pulses through Centrally Sponsored Schemes. In addition, in order to augment the supply of pulses, their imports have been kept under OGL and the customs duty on imported pulses was reduced to 5% from 10%. Further, strict action against hoarders and balckmarketeers is being taken by the State/UT Governments under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

Complaints against export of substandard goods

1030. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints during 1995 and so far in 1996 against the exporters who compromise with the quality and who export substandard goods bringing a bad name for the cour.try;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints against the foreign firms found to be indulging in dumping of goods in the Indian markets;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the names of such firms and the details in this regard; and

(d) the action Government have taken or propose to take in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Complaints against export of sub-standard goods are investigated and action taken against erring exporters under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992, Export (Control) Order, 1988 framed under Import & Export - (Control) Act, 1947/Export (Quality Control & Inspection) Act 1963, as amended in 1984, for imposing fiscal penalties, debarments and cancellation of Importer-Exporter Code Number, etc. The names of the firms against whom action has been taken is at Statement-I (*See* below).

Anti dumping investigations are carried out under the Customs Tariff Act and the Rules made thereunder. Anti dumping duty is imposed on the basis of such investigations. Cases in which anti dumping duty has been imposed is at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Cases of Quality Complaints where penal action has been taken during 1994-95 and 1995-96.

		Action Taken
1.	M/s Bombay Art Jewellers, Bombay	IE Code No. suspended for 5 years w.e.f. 7.4.95 and
	Export of Silver-coated Brass Jewelleries to Dubai, UAF etc.	Fiscal penalty and Rs. 3.82 crores (total) imposed 21.6.95. i.e. Rs. 80 lakhs an each to the firm and its three partners.
2.	M/s Shivnath Rai Narain (India), Co., New Delhi	Fiscal penalty of Rs. 10 lakhs imposed on the firm
	Export of inferior quality rice to South Afirca	"
3.	M/s Billa Enterprises, Phagwara, Punjab	Debarred for one year w.e.f. 27.9.95.
4.	M/s King Fisheries, Kollam, Kerala	Adjudicated for cancellation/suspension of IBC No.
	Export of bacteria-infected shrips/seafood to Italy	Warning issued.
5.	M/s Mikes International Bangalore	Debarred for one year w.e.f. 6.9.95.
	Defective-designed/bad quality silk garments to Switzerland	
6.	M/s Pearl Food Products Coachin	IE Code Number Cancelled
	Bacteria-infected cream biscuits to Ukraine	
7.	M/s Trinity Trading Cochin	IE Code Number cancelled;
	Bacteria/infected Cream biscuits to Ukraine	
8.	M/s Achhruram Kalkhof & Co., (Shellac) Ltd., Calcutta	Fiscal penalty imposed for Rs. 5 lakhs
	Regarding supply of Shellact against export commitment to Egypt & Germany	
9.	M/s Sufco Exports, Bombay	IE Code Number cancelled and
	Substandard/expired drugs/medicines/injection ampules to Zambia	Fiscal penalty of Rs. 5 lakhs imposed.
10.	M/s Fortex Remedies (P) Ltd., Bombay	IE Code Number cancelled and
	Substandard drugs/expired medicines/Injection ampules to Zambia	Fiscal penalty of Rs. 5 lakhs imposed.

Statement-II

Anti Dumping Cases where Duty has been imposed

	Product	*Country*	*Duty Imposed*	*Present Status/Remarks*
1.	PVC Basin	Argentina	Nil duty	Duty levied on 18.1.94
		Brazil	Rs. 2063/MT	Duty levied on 18.1.94
		Mexico	Rs. 1619/MT	Duty levied on 18.1.94

	Product	*Country*	*Duty Imposed*	*Present Status/Remarks*
		South Korea	Rs. 1253/MT	Duty levied on 18.1.94
		U.S.A.	Rs. 504/MT	Duty levied on 18.1.94
2.	Bisphenol-A	Japan	Rs. 7477/MT	Duty levied on 11.3.94
3.	Potassium Permanganate	China	Rs. 5992/MT	Duty levied on 5.9.95
4.	Isobutyle Benezene	China	Rs. 10634/MT	Duty levied on 31.8.95
5.	3, 4, 5 trimethoxy Benzaldehyde (TMBA)	China	Rs. 237/Kg.	Duty levied on 20.10.95
6.	Theophylline	China	Rs. 108/Kg.	Duty levied on 20.10.95
	Caffiene	China	Rs. 101/Kg.	Duty levied on 20.10.95
7.	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (NBR)	Japan	Rs. 19306/MT	Duty levied on 14.11.95
8.	Bisphenol-A	Russia	Rs. 12,559/MT	Duty levied on 26.12.95
		Brazil	Rs. 10,263/MT	Duty levied on 26.12.95

International Exhibition on High-Tech Industries and Technology

1031. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR:
SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an International Exhibition on high-tech industries and technology was recently held in New Delhi;

(b) if so, who were the principal organizers and what was the purpose and what was the amount spent on this exhibition;

(c) the names of the countries which participated in the said exhibition, and in what manner these countries can assist India in the technical know-how; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. An exhibition namely "Wisitex 96—9th International Trade Exposition and Technology Congress" was held from 7th to 13th February, 1996 in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

(b) M/s. Wisitex Foundation, New Delhi, a private body, organised this exhibition. This was co-sponsored by UNIDO, Deptt of Telecommunication, Deptt. of Electronics, UNESCO and National Informatics Centre (NIC) etc.

The objective of the exhibition was to promote exports from industrial sector, technology transfer, joint ventures, woman entrepreneurship, exposure to the capabilities of small scale industries, awareness of latest technology, and quality conciousness for matching international standards.

As reported by M/s. Wisitex Foundation, total expenditure on this exhibition was Rs. 7.00 crores (Approx).

(c) and (d) 700 Indian companies and 452 foreign companies from 27 countries prominently from USA, Israel, Germany, Japan, U.K., France, China, Netherlands, Italy, Taiwan, Singapore, Korea and Canada participated in the exhibition. These countries are in a